

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 COLOMB 00970 021000Z
ACTION SS-15

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----086914 021457Z /41
R 020830Z MAR 78
FM AMEMBASSY COLOMBO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9679

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE COLOMBO 0970

FOR DEPUTY UNDER SECRETARY BEN READ FROM AMBASSADOR

E.O. 11652* N/A
TAGS: CGEN, AMGT, CE

SUBJ: CONSULAR AGENCY IN MALDIVES

REF: A. COLOMBO 0813; B. 2 FAM 410

1. IF I UNDERSTAND CORRECTLY HOW THESE THINGS ARE DONE, IT IS NOW UP TO YOU TO DECIDE ON MY RECOMMENDATION (REFTEL) TO OPEN A CONSULAR AGENCY IN THE MALDIVES. I THOUGHT IT MIGHT BE USEFUL TO YOU TO HAVE MY PERSONAL ASSURANCE THAT I HAVE CONSIDERED THIS MATTER VERY CAREFULLY AND BELIEVE WE WOULD BE WELL ADVISED TO MOVE AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE.

2. WITHOUT REPEATING OUR DETAILED JUSTIFICATION, I WANTED YOU TO KNOW THAT I AM INCREASINGLY CONCERNED AT THE VERY LIMITED INFORMATION AVAILABLE TO US HERE IN COLOMBO WITH WHICH TO CARRY OUT OUR RESPONSIBILITIES WITH THE GOVERNMENT OF MALDIVES. THESE INCLUDE CONSULAR SERVICES TO ARRESTED AMERICAN CITIZENS; GOVERNMENT PROCUREMENT TENDER FOR AMERICAN BUSINESS; ASSISTANCE TO U.S. VOLUNTARY AGENCIES; AND A LIMITED RANGE OF BROADER MATTERS. AN AGREEMENT WITH THE GOM FOR A CONSULAR AGENCY AS THE RECOGNIZED CONTACT POINT WOULD ALLOW US A MODEST FLOW OF MATERIAL ABOUT THE MALDIVES, WHICH IT IS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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SIMPLY NOT POSSIBLE TO SECURE BY LETTERS OR OCCASIONAL VISITS FROM COLOMBO.

3. WITH THE EXCEPTION OF THE AGENT'S SALARY, WE ARE PREPARED TO ABSORB ALL THE OPENING AND OPERATING COSTS OF THE CONSULAR AGENCY IN OUR EMBASSY BUDGET.

4. I REALIZE THAT TO DEAL WITH THIS MINOR MATTER, YOU MUST
TAKE TIME AWAY FROM HANDLING PROBLEMS OF FAR GREATER CON-
SEQUENCE. I WOULD BE VERY GRATEFUL IF YOU COULD DEVOTE A FEW
MOMENTS TO IT.

5. WARM PERSONAL REGARDS.
WRIGGINS

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 02 mar 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Format: TEL
From: COLOMBO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t197803116/aaaadujv.tel
Line Count: 69
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: fbe63dba-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
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Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
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TAGS: CGEN, AMGT, CE
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